

Message Text

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FOR: SECSTATE EA/PHL ONLY
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CINCPAC - USIA ADVISOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - OCTOBER 7-13, 1977

I. PSYCHOLOGICAL

A. COMMENT CONTINUES ON MRS MARCOS IN NEW YORK -- MRS. MARCOS'

MEETINGS IN NEW YORK WITH SECRETARY VANCE AND PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER CONTINUED TO ENGENDER UPBEAT COMMENT THIS WEEK. NOTING THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME PRESIDENT CARTER HAD MET WITH A HIGH OFFICIAL OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE BULLETIN PRAISED HIM FOR ACKNOWLEDGING "THE ASIAN CIRCUMSTANCES" IN STATING THAT HIS DEFINITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS EXPANDED TO INCLUDE THE RIGHT TO SHELTER, FOOD AND EDUCATION.

COMMENTOR FRANCISCO DE LEON IN THE TIMES JOURNAL SAID THE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER "HAS DONE MUCH IN GENERATING GOODWILL BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND ITS FORMER MOTHER COUNTRY." HE SAID, "SLOWLY BUT SURELY, THE LOOSE ENDS IN THE SUSPENDED NEGOTIATIONS ON THE MILITARY BASES...ARE BEING PIECED TOGETHER." EVEN DOROY
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VALENCIA WAS MOVED TO DECLARE THAT "THE OBVIOUS RESULT (OF THE MEETING) WILL BE THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WAS GIVEN THE ACTUAL POSITION OF PRESIDENT MARCOS ON PENDING US-RP NEGOTIATIONS OF THE BASES AND THE TRADE TREATY. WE, FOR OUR PART, HAVE AN IDEA OF THE CARTER THINKING. THIS WILL MAKE THE JOB OF THE AMERICAN AND FILIPINO NEGOTIATING PANELS EASIER. HOPEFULLY, THIS WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR AN EARLY MEETING OF THE MINDS."

B. U.S. "PROTECTIONISM" RAPPED -- REACTING TO A SPEECH TO U.S.

BUSINESSMEN IN NEW YORK BY FIANCE SECRETARY VIRATA, IN WHICH THE
OFFICIAL EXPRESSED CONCERN COVER U.S. PROTECTIONIST MEASURES,
COLUMNISTS ERNESTO GRANADA AND DOROY VALENCIA TOOK DIFFERENT
TACKS. GRANADA HAILED VIRATA'S "GUTS" IN WARNING THE AMERICANS
AND SAID "FILIPINOS ARE NO LONGER WILLING TO SUFFER ANYTHING
JUST TO ENTICE AMERICAN INVESTORS." VALENCIA, ON THE OTHER
HAND, FELT THAT AMERICANS WOULD HEED VIRATA'S ADVICE, SINCE
"HIS SINCERITY IS NOT QUESTIONED IN AMERICAN INVESTMENT CIRCLES"
AND ALSO BECAUSE OF "THE IMPROVE CLIMATE IN US-RP RELATIONS."

C. PUBLISHER/REPORTER CONTROVERSY GOES ON -- AT WEEK'S END

THE FUROR OVER THE PUBLISHER'S "WHITE PAPER" ON CORRUPTION AMONG
JOURNALISTS HAD BEGUN TO DIE DOWN, THOUGH NOT BEFORE DOROY
HAD HAD A CHANCE TO GRIND OUT SEVERAL THOUSAND WORDS ON THE
SUBJECT. HE CONTINUED TO CHAMPION THE CAUSE OF THE LOWLY
REPORTERS "SMERED" BY THEIR OWN BOSSES. HE EVEN OFFERED TO
DEBATE THE PUBLISHERS ON TELEVISION, WITH THE LOSER AGREEING
IN ADVANCE TO QUIT HIS PROFESSION:

II. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

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A. SEE MANILA 16196 FOR A REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVE PRESENCE HERE
OF TAX EXPERT RICHARD LINDHOLM.

B. INTO ITS LAST WEEK, THE AMERICAN FRONTIER EXHIBIT CONTINUES
TO DRAW SUBSTANTIAL AND ENTHUSIASTIC CROWDS. A FULL REPORT WILL
BE FORWARDED AFTER THE OCT. 16 CLOSING.
DAWSON

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